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# RUSSO'S ROLL CALL



County Clerk Steve Peter  
Sheriff Russo  
Commissioner Melonie Marano

Hello Somerset County and welcome to the first edition of the Somerset County Sheriff's Newsletter. I would like to start by wishing everyone a healthy and Happy New Year. This Sheriff's first newsletter is a recap of my first term as your County Sheriff. The last three years have had some major hurdles for all of us with a worldwide pandemic, massive storms and civil unrest. At the Sheriff's Office, we have worked very hard to keep the community safe and we will continue to move forward with new programs that are designed to keep up with the changing times while positively interacting with the community. I firmly believe that interacting with the community through schools, places of worship, and businesses will help the Sheriff's Office accomplish this.

As you will see in this newsletter, the officers have stepped up, come through and adapted to this new approach of policing. Here is a list of the changes we have instituted in the Somerset County Sheriff's Law Division, Correctional Police and BCI to better serve you: Outreach Programs, Chaplain Program, Bias/Hate Crime Unit, expanded K-9 Unit, first Active Shooter Awareness Training, distribution of Stop the Bleed equipment, Corrections re-entry, drug programs and Internship Program.

I would like to thank all of the Somerset County Sheriff's Officers who put on the uniform and go out everyday to serve Somerset County. Your dedication, loyalty and commitment are what makes these programs successful. In addition, I would also like to acknowledge and thank all the civilian employees, volunteers and residents who assisted the officers on implementing these programs.

Sincerely,

*Sheriff Darrin J. Russo*

### MEET OUR UNDERSHERIFFS

- Joe Lombardo-Ret. Capt. 25 yrs.
- Paul Kaminsky-Ret. Chief 25 yrs.
- Kim Williams-Ret. Capt. 25 yrs.
- Tim Pino-Ret. Chief 25 yrs.





# REMEMBERING DET. RONALD YEAGER



With much persistence, on May 19, 2022 Somerset County Sheriff's fallen Detective Ronald James Yeager's name was included in the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, DC following his "in the line of duty death in 2000". Yeager's name was engraved on the wall during a ceremony in Washington, DC as part of National Police Week. This honor comes almost 22 years after the detective's death during an on-duty motor vehicle accident on July 10, 2000. Ron's partner Undersheriff Tim Pino was there along with Sheriff Darrin J. Russo and Ron's son, Ret. Fanwood PD Sgt. Russ Yeager to see the ceremony.

*"I've been riding in the tour for 10 years and this is the first time I have had the honor to ride for*

*someone I know. Ron was a good man, a dedicated officer and family came first. It was a long battle but Ron and his family finally have closure." said Sheriff Darrin Russo.*

## ACTIVE SHOOTER AWARENESS TRAINING

Sheriff Darrin J. Russo and the Somerset County Sheriff's Special Response Team, in conjunction with other agencies, hosted a two-day Active Shooter Awareness Training at the Shimon and Sara Birnbaum Jewish Community Center (JCC) in Bridgewater. The JCC hosted the training for religious and community leaders. The focus of the training was to learn how to prevent and prepare for the active shooter incidents. The two-day training consisted of classroom training and practical exercises.



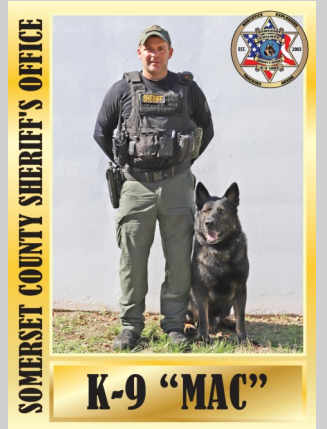




Top left Officer Daneker, K9 Patriot, Timmy Miessler, Sheriff Russo. Bottom photo is K9 Sergeant Shannon Snook. Trading cards top to bottom S/O Nielsen, S/O Pawlick, S/O Kromar and S/O Soffer.

## K9 PATRIOT

K9 Patriot was named after a selection of over 1,000 names submitted by residents during a two-week contest. Sixth grader Timmy Miessler from Branchburg and Ruthanne Ungerleider, a Certified Shorthand reporter from Bedminster, recommended the winning name. K9 Patriot is S/O Daneker's second K9 after spending over ten years working with the infamous K9 Apex and his prestigious assignment to a federal agency. During and prior to their assignment with the federal agency, they recovered over twenty million dollars of illegal narcotics and currency. Our K-9 Unit, supervised by K9 Sergeant Shannon Snook, has responded to hundreds of call outs from missing persons to narcotics investigations with dozens of positive finds to locating kilos of drugs. They continue to be instrumental in police work.





# FAREWELL CAPTAIN MOYE

Retiring after 37 years of service, Captain Lorenzo Moya Sr, a U.S. Army and New Jersey National Guard 50th Military Police Company veteran, was hired in 1985 as a Correctional Officer. Over the past 36 years, Capt. Moya was promoted through the ranks. Capt. Moya has served as a member of the Somerset County Emergency Response Team as a crisis negotiator for 20 years. He is the first African American officer to be promoted to the rank of Correctional Police Captain in 30 years.



Sheriff Russo & Capt. Moya

# CHAPLAINCY PROGRAM

Meet our Chaplains from left to right, Imam Ibrahim Quadri, Rabbi Joel Friedman, Chaplain Shelly Bell, Chaplain Ari Weiss, and Rev. Major Morrison. Also on staff, not seen here is Rev. Michael Drury and Imam Mohammed Ahmed.



This program was initiated to help bridge the gap between our community and the police. Our chaplains help set up meetings, demonstrations and training so the public can better understand how police function and the police can better understand how the community feels.

# OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Working together for the community PBA Local 177 & 272 have helped make our outreach programs a huge success by donating their time and funds. These photos are just a few examples of what they have accomplished.



SOMERSET COUNTY FOOD BANK



SNYDER'S FARM



MACKY'S TOY DRIVE



BACKPACK DRIVE





## BETTER TOGETHER

Partnering with local businesses and residents to strengthen our community and build a brighter future.





# PROMOTIONS

The Somerset County Sheriff's Office would like to acknowledge the following officers who were promoted during 2021-2022.

## LAW DIVISION:

Promoted to Sergeant are the following: Karissa Hahn, Jeffrey Murray, Shannon Snook, Adrian Romero, Antoinette Hartman and Joseph Bialiy. Promoted from Sergeant to Lieutenant: Christopher Omelio, and from Lieutenant to Captain Michael DiGuilio.

## CORRECTIONS DIVISION:

Promoted to Corporal: Christopher Bizup, Rob Bobrowski and Andres Romero. Promoted to Sergeant are Clarence Anthony, Jason Goodman, John Pineiro, Ricky Matthews, Napoleon Freeman and John Reznik. Promoted from Sergeant to Lieutenant: Suzanne DeLeo, Gregory Quintero and Vincent Carube. Lieutenant to Captain: Lorenzo Moye Sr, Donald Essig and Keith Covert.



## **PROJECT MEDICINE DROP**

Project Medicine Drop continues to grow with the help of Sgt. Bialiy and team. We have collected 3,162 lbs. of unwanted medication and we've added an additional 7 municipalities.



**PROJECT MEDICINE DROP**

## **PROJECT LIFESAVER**

Project Lifesaver: Introducing new technology, Drone and specialized training for our officers on how to better serve our community. Sgt. Adrian Romero has taken P.L. to a new level with updated training and drones (donated and sponsored by the Office on Aging & Disability Services.) "Learning to deal with people with special needs and seniors affected by dementia requires specific training which is what we have provided our team," Sgt. Romero said.



**PROJECT LIFESAVER**





# A BIT ABOUT ....SGT. KARISSA HAHN

This feature will highlight an officer that has overcome challenges and has gone above and beyond the call of duty. This issue highlights Sergeant Karissa Hahn.

Sergeant Karissa Hahn was hired in 2013. She joined law enforcement to be more involved with the community, particularly our youth. From the ages of 4-14 Sgt. Hahn grew up in foster homes, being placed in about two dozen different homes. She says, "the moves were tough, they were never easy, but I had to stay positive. This made me stronger and determined to find ways to help others, and to give back. Law enforcement gave me that opportunity." Since becoming a Sheriff's Officer, Sgt. Hahn has channeled all her past experiences and energy into helping others less fortunate. Sgt. Hahn became the first female School Resource Officer, and the first female on the Special Response Team and with 8 years on the job, she became the first female promoted to Sergeant in 17 years. Sergeant Hahn continues to grow in the Sheriff's Office supervising the Vo-tech Law Programs, and the newly formed Sheriff's Office Outreach Unit. Sgt. Hahn has been instrumental in providing guidance to many of our youth. Her programs have provided families with hope, whether its shopping for toys or providing food to the shelters, she continues to look for ways to help others. Sgt. Hahn is also the first LGBTQ liaison to the community and first female president to the Supervisor's Police Union, PBA/SOA 272. I commend Sgt. Hahn on her commitment and dedication to the community and Law Enforcement.





